

Blessed is the one

Call to worship

One: We cry to the one riding on a colt, Hosanna!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

One: We shout to the one who dwells within our hearts, Hosanna!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

One: We boldly proclaim that Christ is worthy of our loyalty and attention, Hosanna!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

One: May our worship inspire us to act with love and justice. May we be empowered by courage to create communities of belonging for all, especially those who are vulnerable and victimized.

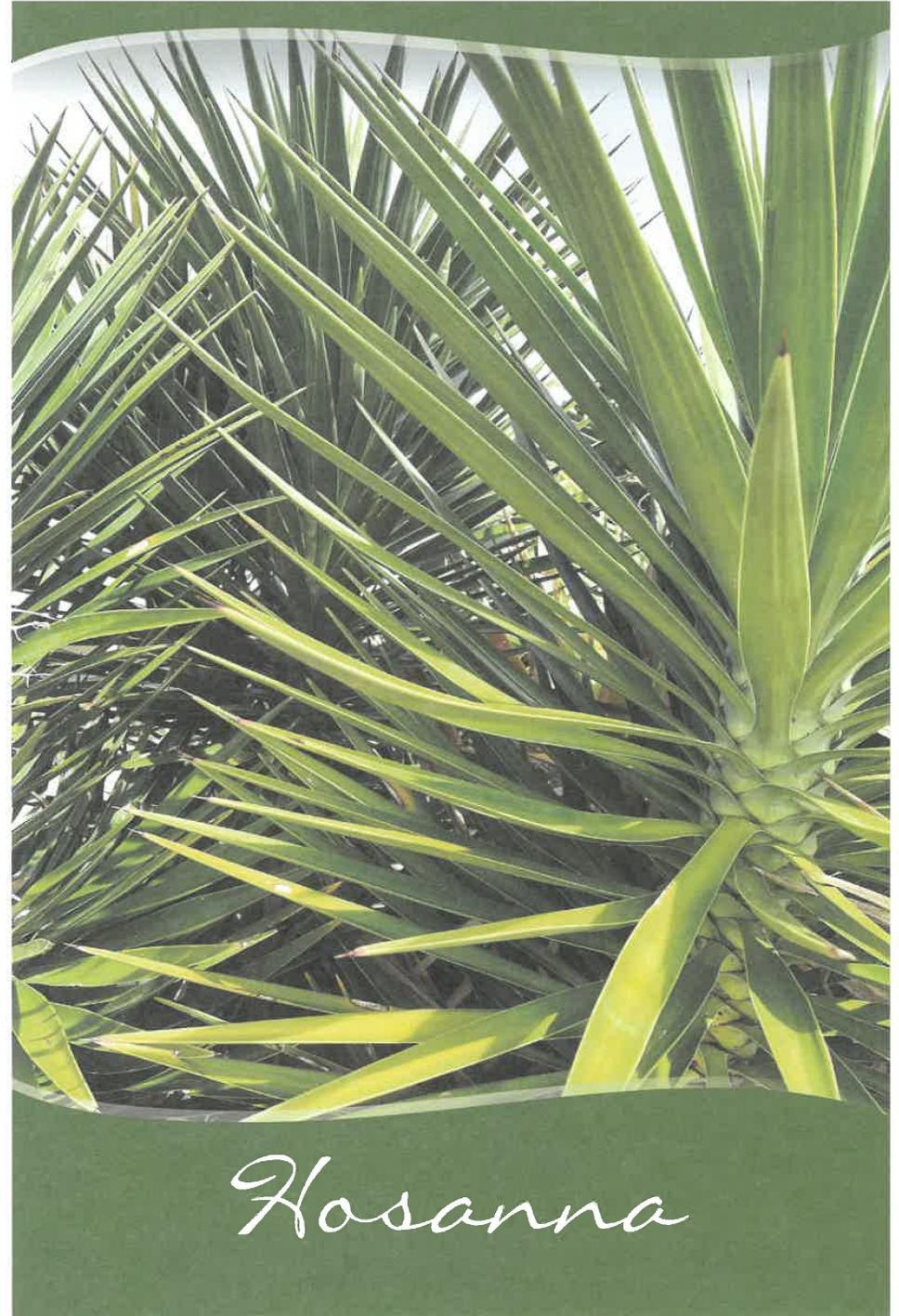
All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the one who offers a different kind of reign—one grounded in humility, compassion, and service.

— Glenn McCrickard
La Verne, California

"The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'" (Matthew 21:9, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66.

March 29, 2026, Palm Sunday.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Jack Finniff, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE “Processional for a King” (Ritter)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is a day of joyous welcome. Yet joy is tempered by
impending doom.

**All: We welcome Christ with waving branches. We wait with Christ
through hours of agony.**

One: Our leader comes humbly, riding a donkey. Blessed is the one who
comes in God’s name.

**All: Jesus rides into the tumult of our times. People still oppose the
way of love.**

One: Yet love prevails in spite of opposition. Give thanks that God’s
steadfast love endures forever.

**All: Open to us the gates of righteousness. Let us enter in the light
God offers.**

HYMN #238 “Hosanna, loud hosanna”
[Verse 1]

*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang.
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.*

[Verse 2]

*From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm-branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.*

[Verse 3]

*“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our redeemer, the Lord of heav’n our king.
Oh, may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!*

OPENING PRAYER

Be gracious to us, O God, in our moments of grief and fear. Be with us as
we rejoice in the day you have made. Our times are in your hands, both when
we mourn and when we celebrate. Guide our thoughts and actions so we may
appreciate the possibilities in every day. We trust in you, O God. Let your face
shine on your servants. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

HYMN #237 “All glory, laud and honor”
[Refrain]

*All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

[Verse 1]

*Thou art are the King of Israel and David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name cometh, the King and blessed one.*

[Refrain]

*All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

[Verse 2]

*The company of angels is praising thee on high,
and we, with all creation, in chorus make reply.*

[Refrain]

*All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

[Verse 3]

*The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.*

[Refrain]

*All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

[Verse 4]

*To thee before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.*

[Refrain]

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

[Verse 5]

Thou didst accept their praises, accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

For thirty pieces of silver, Jesus was betrayed. And still today he is denied in the way we use our resources entrusted to us. God does not ask of us a token of support. We are called to give our all, of which our offerings here is but a symbol. Will our offerings shout good news to the world?

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on YouTube Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob website.

Offertory "Behold the King" (Smith)

***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May these offerings bring life-changing good news, both to those who give and to all who are reached by the caring ministries of the church. May they help to restore relationships of trust among us and outpourings of generosity that echo your steadfast love around the world. May your saints be raised to new life that cuts through the deceptions of society to bring your new order among us, O God of all times and places. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on YouTube and our website.

Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.

An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 21:1-11 NT 23

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her;

untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

MORNING ANTHEM "Hosanna to the King of Israel" (Larson)
Temple Choir

MESSAGE "Whispering God" Pastor Twyla Rowe

***HYMN #239** "Ride on Ride on with Majesty"
[Verse 1]

*Ride on, ride on in majesty, as all the crowds "Hosanna!" cry, through waving
branches slowly ride, O Savior, to be crucified.*

[Verse 2]

*Ride on, ride on in majesty, in lowly pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your triumph
now begin with captured death and conquered sin!*

[Verse 3]

*Ride on, ride on in majesty - the angel armies of the sky look down with sad and
wond'ring eyes to see th' approaching sacrifice.*

[Verse 4]

*Ride on, ride on in majesty, in lowly pomp ride on to die. Bow your meek head to
mortal pain, then take, O God, thy pow'r and reign.*

***BENEDICTION**

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.

POSTLUDE

“Hosanna, Hosanna”

(Smith)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



PALM SUNDAY

Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

[www.youtube.com/
@hagerstowncob](http://www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and
Rejoice in your participation with us in
worship. It is our prayer that you will
experience the presence of God's Spirit and
that it will equip you for service and ministry
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and
Cluster Leaders are available after worship
and during the week to listen and assist you in
your Christian pilgrimage.*

THE ANNOUNCER March 29, 2026

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

This week please join us in praying for our staff members at HCOB. Please pray for Pastor Twyla & Don Rowe; Burt Young; Heather Kees; Charles Stockslager; Chris Stockslager; Calvin Park; & Allyson McPeak.

"Take A Moment" Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" beginning Sunday, March 29 - Holy Lamb of God...this Lenten journey has brought me now to the holiest of weeks. I am faced with the reminder of what you did for me to save me from my sinfulness and separation from God. I cannot ignore the pain and suffering you endured. Yet the whispers of God helped you endure and in the end...evil did not win. When suffering and pain oppress me, whisper words of hope to me. When I allow sin to win a battle in my life, upon my confession, whisper words of forgiveness to me. When I feel broken, lost and all alone, whisper words of love to my heart. When I find myself on the brink of succumbing under the weight of darkness, whisper words to help me endure. With you Jesus, when the darkness attacks...I know it will not win. My heart is filled with gratitude for all you have done for me. Amen.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

Our thanks to Jack Finniff for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our members who have passed into the loving arms of our Lord and Savior, given by the Ordinary People Class.

Easter Egg Hunt! Today at 2:00 PM at the Linden Hall Farm. If your child or grandchild will be attending, please let one of the team members from Christian Ed know. CE Team: Tina Mills (chair), Debbie Long, Brenda Shane, Kay Ogilvie & Tracie Potcet.

Love Feast and Good Friday—You are invited to attend the following worship events as a time for personal reflection:

- ◆ April 2nd (Maundy Thursday) at 7:00 PM – Love feast and Communion in the Fellowship Hall.
 - ◆ April 3rd at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary- Good Friday service.
- Both Love Feast and Good Friday Services will be on YouTube.

Easter Sunday—we will once again have our living cross outside near the west entrance. We invite you to bring a flower or many flowers to add to the cross as you enter for worship.

Next Sunday is our regular Food Pantry collection. Bring in your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and place them on the cart as you enter the west entrance, and a volunteer delivers the food. We thank everyone for their continued support of this ministry to our community! **All items collected in April, May & June will be going to our Community Picnic.** Just a reminder - all items should be either dry, boxed, or in cans. Please do not bring in anything in a glass jar that could break and injure a recipient or our volunteers. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School will be held June 15th through the 19th. The theme this year will be Tropical Trek. Sign-up sheets can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. Please fill out and give to any CE Team member, place in the offering, or put in Tina Mills mailbox. The first meeting is Tuesday, April 7th in the fellowship hall. CE Team: Tina Mills (chair), Debbie Long, Brenda Shane, Kay Ogilvie, & Tracie Potcet

NOTICE—Starting in 2026 Contribution Statements will now be emailed. If you do not have an email on file with the church office, your statement will be mailed or placed in your church mailbox. By doing this, it will help us save money in postage and will be a more convenient way for you to have access to your statements. If you do not have an email on file with the church office and wish to receive your statement via email, please contact Allyson (secretaryhcob@gmail.com or 301-733-3565) and she will add your email to the list.

The Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction will be held this year on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the Carroll County Ag. Center in Westminster, MD and will start at 9:00 am. The Response Dinner will be held Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm at Bush Creek Church of the Brethren.

The Little Library is now up outside near the Washington Street entrance. We filled it with 63 books last week. In one week there were only 6 left. We added an additional 20 books recently. If you have children's books, adult books, magazines, Readers Digest, novels, craft books, etc., please feel free to put them in the Little Library, or drop them in the box marked "Books" in the west entrance under the table. *Thank you, Spiritual Nurture Team.*

Would you like a truly fun and meaningful few days away with your family this summer? The Family & Grand Camp retreat, one of Shepherd's Spring's newest weekend adventures, is filled with faith-based fun for all ages. This camp, from Friday afternoon, July 31, through Sunday afternoon, Aug. 2, offers strong Scriptural teaching with lots of family-building activities -- from making your family's own t-shirts, to swimming and hiking together, gathering at campfires and much more -- while staying amid 220 acres of God's forested beauty, bordering the C&O Canal and the Potomac River!! All this, while staying in Shepherd's Spring's very own lodge, its Poplar Village cabins, or setting up your own tent and enjoying breakfast, lunch and dinner in the lodge's beautiful dining room. It's all here -- intergenerational, even! Yes, BRING Grandma and Grandpa!! Build the meaning of having Christian FAMILY!!! And, there's no charge for bringing your littles, ages 5 and under!! So, how 'bout it? Right now, family meeting!! Begin your adventure at: <https://www.shepherdsspring.org/> and click on "Summer Camp". -- *Arn Platou*

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Donnie Maas (240-866-1077). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

Church mailboxes. Everyone is welcome to use the mailboxes. If you would like to be added or taken off the list, please contact Mary Means. If you have a mailbox, we ask that you be willing to monitor it. Any mail that is left in the mailboxes after a three-month period will be disposed of. The mailboxes are located in the hallway of the church office.

Offering envelopes are located in the pew racks and at other convenient locations around the church. To assist our financial secretary, we ask that you use an envelope and please put your name and envelope number on the outside. Here's a tip - take a few envelopes home and stick one of those return address labels we all get on the outside. Then all you need to add is your number. Having your name and number on the outside of the envelope is a huge help to our offering counters. Thank you!

Deadline for bulletins and newsletters. Announcements for the weekly bulletin need to be given to the administrative assistant before noon on Wednesday. Announcements for the monthly newsletters need to be given to the administrative assistant before the 15th of each month. Let's help her out by meeting deadlines, and also by not asking for special exceptions. Announcements should continue to be emailed to secretaryhcob@gmail.com. Thank you!

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)
2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt/Linden Hall Farm

Monday, March 30

Church office closed

1:00 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, March 31

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, April 1

Admin. Assistant/Work from home

8:00 am Piano Tuning/Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary/Choir Room

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, April 2

Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Love Feast/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 3

Good Friday

8:00 am Bulletin prep/Church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of parking lot (1-3PM)

7:00 pm Good Friday Service/Sanctuary

Saturday, April 4

Easter Flower Delivery/Pastor Twyla's day off/Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday/Food Pantry Sunday

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room

10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org.
Click the calendar tab.



We grieve many things in life, but the loss of a loved one is probably the most devastating. As a result, the grief journey is a painful and lonely one. GriefShare is an international faith-based ministry that provides valuable tools to anyone who has lost a spouse, parent, child, sibling or other family member or friend, even if that loss is not recent. Our HCOB team offers a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief and where participants can find support in the company of others also on their grief journeys. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become an even greater support for you.

Our spring session of GriefShare began on Monday, Feb. 16, and will continue each Monday afternoon through May 11, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Mullendore Room. Cost of the session is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. You may join the group at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attending at least 3 consecutive weeks. GriefShare recommends repeating the 13-week course a second time to absorb even more of the content, so if you have participated in GriefShare before and wish to attend again, we welcome you.

Register at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

The Novel Bunch presents...

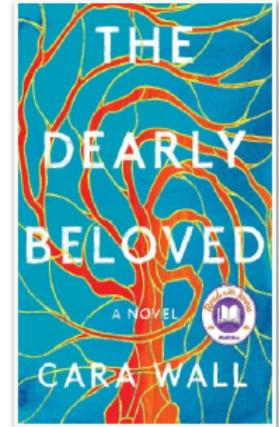
The Dearly Beloved

by Cara Wall

"This gentle, gorgeously written book may be one of my favorites ever."
—Jenna Bush Hager (A Today Show "Read with Jenna" Book Club Selection)

"The best book about faith in recent memory."
—Entertainment Weekly

This book is a character study about friendship, family, and faith. Charles and Lily & James and Nan meet in Greenwich Village in 1963 when Charles and James are jointly hired to manage the historic Third Presbyterian Church through turbulent times. However, their personal differences threaten to tear them apart. Charles is destined to follow his father as an esteemed history professor at Harvard until an unorthodox lecture about faith leads him to ministry. So, how can he fall in love with intellectual Lily after she tells him that she never will believe in God? And yet, how can he not believe?



James, the youngest son in a hardscrabble Chicago family, spent much of his youth angry at his alcoholic father and avoiding his nervous mother. James's escape from his desperate circumstances leads him to Nan, the devout and beloved daughter of a Mississippi minister and debutante. Despite James's guarded optimism, Nan's gentle, constant faith changes the course of his life. *The Dearly Beloved* follows these two couples through decades of love, friendship, jealousy, forgiveness, and commitment. Against the backdrop of conflict and change facing the city and the church's congregation, these four forge improbable paths through their evolving relationships as each struggles with uncertainty, heartbreak, and joy. This book is a moving reflection on faith and reason, and the ways we find meaning in our lives.

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Place: Fellowship Hall

*This is a book for men and women alike, so we encourage the men of the congregation to attend and offer their perspectives.

Light refreshments to follow.

NOTE: If you have any questions or need assistance acquiring the book, call Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779. Please return the section below if you plan to attend.

NAME _____ I plan to attend _____ YES

Preferred contact information: Phone _____ OR Email _____

Book Club Team: *Jenny Ferguson, Kristal Bricker, Debbie Nycum, Judy Williams, Jan Young